

United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida  
Jacksonville Division

ASTER FITCH,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

No. 3:20-cv-1077-J-34PDB

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

*Defendant.*

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**Order**

The Commissioner cannot timely file a certified transcript required under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) because of a high volume of pending actions and pandemic-caused disruptions in operations and related limitations. Doc. 12-1. The Commissioner therefore moves for a ninety-day stay. Doc. 12. The Commissioner represents that Aster Fitch does not oppose a stay. Doc. 12 at 3.

The Commissioner demonstrates good cause for the requested relief. *See* Doc. 12-1 (declaration by the Executive Director for the Office of Appellate Operations for the Social Security Administration). As stated in other actions involving similar motions, the pandemic has caused substantial disruptions in most aspects of life and work, warranting lenity. Moreover, the action was filed only recently, and shortening the time for one claimant could cause their case to leapfrog others pending longer.

The Court **grants** the motion, Doc. 12; **stays** the case until March 16, 2021, or until the Commissioner files the answer and transcript, whichever is earlier; and

**directs** the clerk to administratively close the case during the stay.

**Ordered** in Jacksonville, Florida, on December 21, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. D. Barksdale', is positioned above a horizontal line.

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PATRICIA D. BARKSDALE  
*United States Magistrate Judge*